

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendments

The claims are modified in the amendment. More specifically, claims 36, 44, 56 and 60 have been amended. This amendment is believed to address the rejection in paragraph 3 of the Office Action among other things. Reconsideration of these claims is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 1, 38, 52, 58 and 62 are allowed as interpreted by the Examiner. Applicant also appreciates claims 1-6, 35, 37-43, 45-55, 57-59, 61 and 62 being allowed as well. Paragraph 4 lists a definition for “wafer” that Applicants believe could be too narrow. Although a wafer is sometimes made of a semiconducting material, that is not necessarily the case. Those skilled in the art appreciate that non-semiconducting materials may be used, for example, sapphire, diamond, glass, etc.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

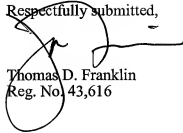
If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of

Appl. No. 10/727,872
Amdt. dated May 22, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 27, 2006

PATENT

this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas D. Franklin
Reg. No. 43,616

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 303-571-4000
Fax: 415-576-0300
TDF:cmb

60894009 v1